



State of Tennessee
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Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

SHIELDS FAMILY PAPERS
1834-1881

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INTRODUCTION

The Shields Family Papers (1834-1881) are largely concerned with the family of Benjamin Shields, a Nashville resident of the mid-nineteenth century. They were deposited in the Manuscript Division by a descendant, Mrs. Martha Clenny of Nashville, Tennessee.

The materials in this collection measure .4 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials.

Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Shields Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Shields Papers (1834-1881) contain correspondence, legal documents, genealogical data, and miscellaneous items of the Benjamin Shields family. Several letters deal with the period prior to 1850 and deal with family and community activities of early Tennesseans.

Probably the most valuable item in the collection is a letter written by Lieutenant E.B. Shields to his father on September 22, 1861. Lieutenant Shields, who was killed at the Battle of Fishing Creek, Kentucky, wrote in considerable detail of a sharp engagement with Federal forces near Cumberland Ford, Kentucky. There are four letters written by John Shields to his wife, Kate, while he was prisoner of war at Camp Chase in 1864. The collection also contains the diploma of Evan B. Shields from Cumberland University in 1857, and his license to practice law in the same year. The diploma of Mary V. Shields from the Nashville Female Academy in 1857, a grammar school diploma of Maria Steele from the Nashville Public Schools, and a certificate designating John Shields as Recording Secretary of Camp No. 35, Tennessee Division, United Confederate Veterans are also among the papers.

A few funeral notices, some legal documents relating to the estate of one Thomas E. Bowles, some land records, and a few Civil War clippings make up the remainder of the collection. One clipping from the Bowling Green, Kentucky, *Daily Courier* dated January 28, 1862, contains an excellent account of the Battle of Fishing Creek.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Correspondence – General, 1834-1923
2. Correspondence – Phillips, J.P. re: land 1924
3. Correspondence – Shields, Evan B. to Benjamin Shields, 1861
4. Correspondence – re: remains of Evan B. Shields
5. Correspondence – Shields, J.E. re: land 1924
6. Correspondence – Shields, John, Prisoner of War at Camp Chase, 1864
7. Correspondence – Steele, Richard – Trip to Philippines, 1898-1899
8. Genealogical Data – Shields Family and others
9. Land Records – Shields and Steele, 1883-1902
10. Legal Documents – Estate of Thomas E. Bowles
11. Miscellaneous Clippings – Battle of Fishing Creek, Zollicoffer, etc, 1862
12. Miscellaneous Clippings – Funeral notices, cards, etc.
13. Photograph of Shields House, 1524 Broad Street, and family photographs
14. Steele, Richard – Service Record – Philippines
15. Miscellaneous – Medals, UDC certificates, calling cards
16. Miscellaneous – Photos – Spanish-American War, 1898-1899
17. Miscellaneous – Postcards and photos
18. Program of the 1st reunion of 1st Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, Spanish-American War

In Map Drawer

Diploma of Evan B. Shields from Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee, 1857
Certificate designating John Shields Recording Secretary of Camp No. 35, Tennessee Division, United Confederate Veterans
Diploma of Miss Mary V. Shields from the Female Academy of Nashville Tennessee, June 13, 1857
Grammar school diploma of Maria Steele from the Nashville Public Schools, June 7, 1893
License of Evan B. Shields to practice law issued by the State of Tennessee, April 1857
Survey of Nashville area including Grand Ave., South Street, Belmont, Villa, and Bowles Streets